

Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 SAJ-01

IO-13 OMB-01 EB-07 CIEP-01 COME-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AF-08

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P R 041138Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8435

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PO

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S OPORTO SPEECH

1. PRESIDENT EANES GAVE HIS FIRST MAJOR SPEECH TO THE NATION ON SEPT 3 IN OPORTO, CALLING IT THE BEGINNING OF AN "OPEN DIALOG" WITH THE PEOPLE. THE SPEECH WAS GIVEN BEFORE AN ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD OF BETWEEN THIRTY AND FIFTY THOUSAND IN OPORTO'S MAIN SQUARE AND CARRIED LIVE ON NATIONAL TV.

2. TONE: EANES CALLED FOR HARD WORK, ORDER AND DISCIPLINE, AND STRONGLY DEFENDED DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS. EANES SAID IT WAS TIME TO GET AWAY FROM IDEOLOGICAL DISCUSSIONS AND DEAL WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONCRETE PROBLEMS.

3. ECONOMIC: EANES EMPHASIZED THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION FACING THE COUNTRY AND SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT ACCEPT "ECONOMIC SABOTAGE DISGUIZED AS DEFENSE OF THE WORKERS INTERESTS" NOR CONTINUE TO SUBSIDIZE MONEY-LOSING STATE ENTERPRIZES AT THE EXPENSE OF THE PEOPLE. HE NOTED THAT THE ENEMIES OF AGRARIAN REFORM INCLUDED THE ERRORS AND EXCESSES THAT REMAIN UNCORRECTED.

4. MILITARY: EANES SAID THAT ORDER AND DISCIPLINE HAD RETURNED TO THE MILITARY AND THAT THE ARMED FORCES NEVER AGAIN COULD BE USED FOR SUBVERSION.

5. COMMENT: SPEECH WAS TYPICAL EANES: NO NONSENSE, AND SOMEWHAT WOODED IN PRESENTATION. HIS CALL FOR WORK AND ORDER WAS BALANCED BY THE STRONG DEFENSE OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND AN EXPLICIT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL LIMITATIONS OF HIS OWN POWER.
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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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